HL.1.954
c.2

APR 21 1992

1990 FARM FATALITIES

Alberta
AGRICULTURE
FARM SAFETY PROGRAM

JANUARY 1991

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2014

https://archive.org/details/farmfatal90

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 1990, 16 farm fatalities were recorded in Alberta. The purpose of this report is to give the number of farm deaths in 1990, identify and categorize the events leading to these deaths and pinpoint areas of farm safety requiring more attention.

Tractors claimed five lives or 31 per cent of all fatalities, and other farm machinery four deaths or 25 per cent.

Half of the victims (8 cases or 50%) were children, compared to no child fatalities in 1989.

Accidents occurred the most in the busy seeding season of May and June, when eight people died.

Three persons were operating tractors and an ATV when the objects rolled over. Another three were bystanders killed in a fuel tank explosion.

Fifty-six per cent (9) of all fatalities were a result of being run over by tractors or tractor rollovers or being caught in machinery.

This report will help the Farm Safety staff highlight efforts to promote safety in areas requiring more attention especially with farm machinery.

INTRODUCTION

Sixteen people died in Alberta in 1990 as a result of farm accidents. Farm machinery continues to be involved in the majority of these fatalities.

The purpose of this report is to give the number of farm deaths in 1990, identify and categorize the events leading to these deaths, and pinpoint areas of farm safety requiring more attention.

Fatality records were obtained from the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, Monitoring Hospitals, Alberta Transportaion and newspaper clippings.

Though the 16 deaths in 1990 is an increase of three from 1989, it is still down markedly from the average of 22 per year recorded in the 1980s.

Table 1 shows the number of farm fatalities from 1980 to 1990.

TABLE 1

FARM FATALITIES, 1980 - 1990

YEAR	NUMBER	% CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR
1980	28	12
1981	32	14
1982	27	-16
1983	27	0
1984	25	- 7
1985	29	16
1986	13	-55
1987	18	38
1988	12	-33
1989	13	8
1990	16	23
	240	

SOURCES: Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, Alberta Transportation, Edmonton Journal, Edmonton Sun and Monitoring Hospitals.

AGE GROUPS OF VICTIMS

Only three of the fatalities (19 per cent) involved persons 45 years and over. This is a marked difference from the average of 11 deaths per year for this age group recorded in the 1980s.

TYPES OF AGENTS

Farm machinery claimed nine lives, fuel tank explosion three, farm trucks two, ATV one life and drowning in a dugout one.

MONTH ACCIDENTS OCCURRED

Fifty-six per cent (9) of all fatalities occurred in the two months May and June, the busy seeding season.

WHERE ACCIDENTS OCCURRED

Seven of the deaths happened in farmyards including three bystanders killed by the fuel tank explosion; four in farm fields in which victims got caught in machinery; three on roadways; one in a dugout; and another one in a machinery shed.

ACTIVITIES OF VICTIMS

Three persons were operating machinery. Three were bystanders killed in a fuel tank explosion. Two were extra riders on tractor and truck. Other activities included repairing truck and rototilling.

HOW ACCIDENTS OCCURRED

Fifty-six per cent (9) of all fatalities were a result of being run over by tractors or tractor rollovers or being caught in machinery.

This report will help the Farm Safety staff highlight efforts to promote safety in arreas requiring more attention especially machinery.

1990 FARM FATALITIES

	DATE	AGE	REGION	SEX	AGENT	CAUSE/HOW	WHERE	ACTIVITY
1.	Apr 7	30	5	M	PTO	Caught in	Field	Peeling post
2.	May 5	7	5	F	Gasoline	Explosion	Farmyard	Bystander
3.	May 6	6	5	M	Gasoline	Explosion	Farmyard	Bystander
4.	May 12	15	3	M	ATV [1]	Rollover	Farmyard	Operating
5.	May 14	66	6	F	Dugout	Drowning	Dugout	Rototilling
6.	May 15	2	6	M	Tractor	Run over	Farmyard	Playing
7.	May 26	36	4	M	Rock picker	Caught in	Field	Unplugging
8.	Jun 9	3	3	M	Tractor	Run over	Farmyard	Extra rider
9.	Jun 10	39	4	M	Truck [2]	Crushed by	Farmyard	Repairs
10.	Jun 26	4	5	M	Truck [2]	Fell off	Roadway	Extra rider
11.	Jul 11	15	5	M	Gasoline	Explosion	Farmyard	Bystander
12.	Aug 1	12	2	M	Tractor	Rollover	Roadway	Operating
13.	Aug 1	83	2	M	Tractor	Rollover	Roadway	Operating
14.	Sep 5	32	1	M	Silage bagger	Caught in	Field	Operating
15.	Oct 2	28	5	M	Round baler	Caught in	Field	Check tying mechanism
16.	Oct 22	57	6	M	Tractor	Crushed by	Shed	Tying chain to barrel

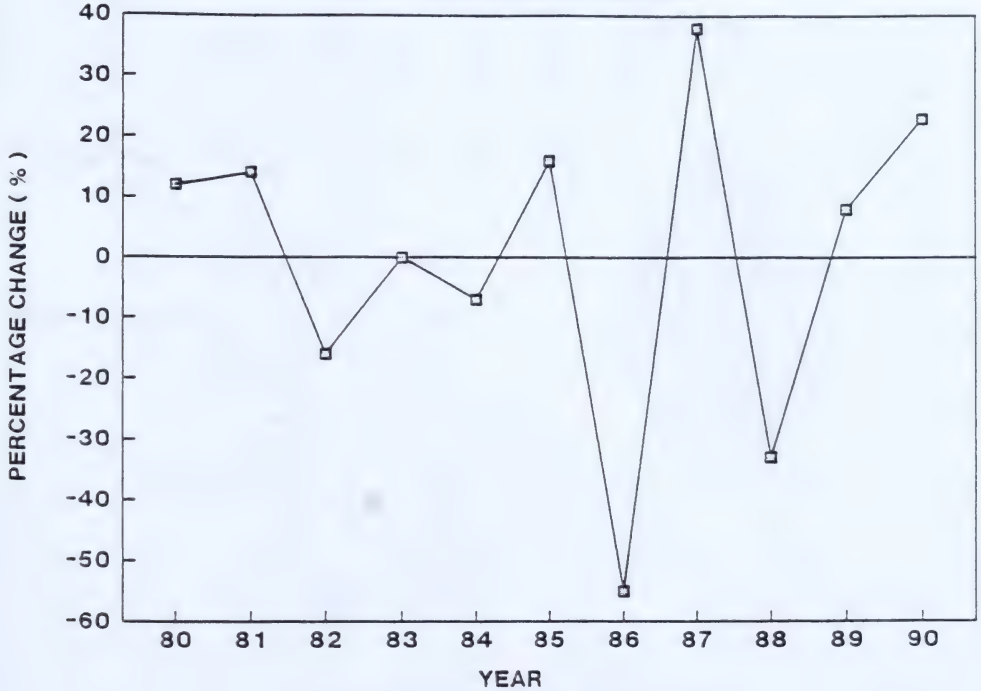
1 3 wheeler

2 pick up truck

SOURCES: Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, Alberta Transportation, Fairview and Willingdon Hospitals, Edmonton Journal, Edmonton Sun and R.C.M.P.

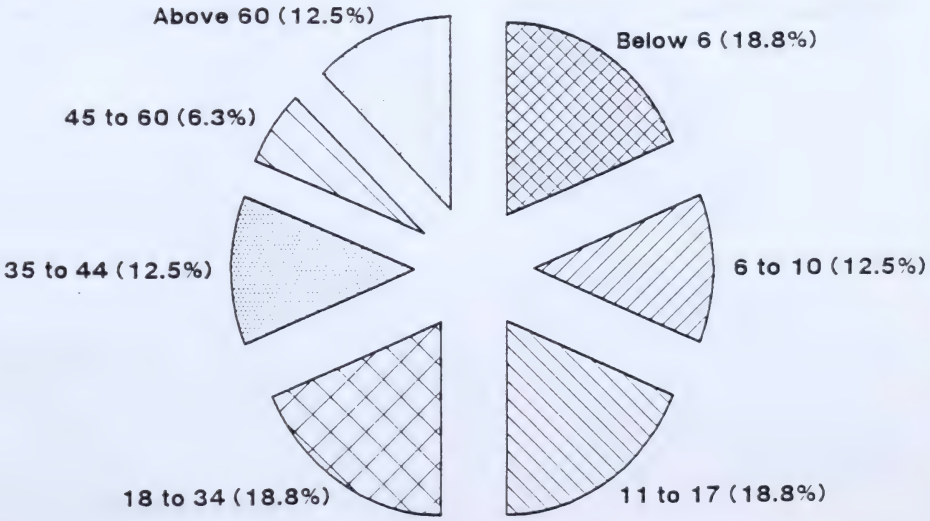
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR

1980 - 1990 FARM FATALITIES



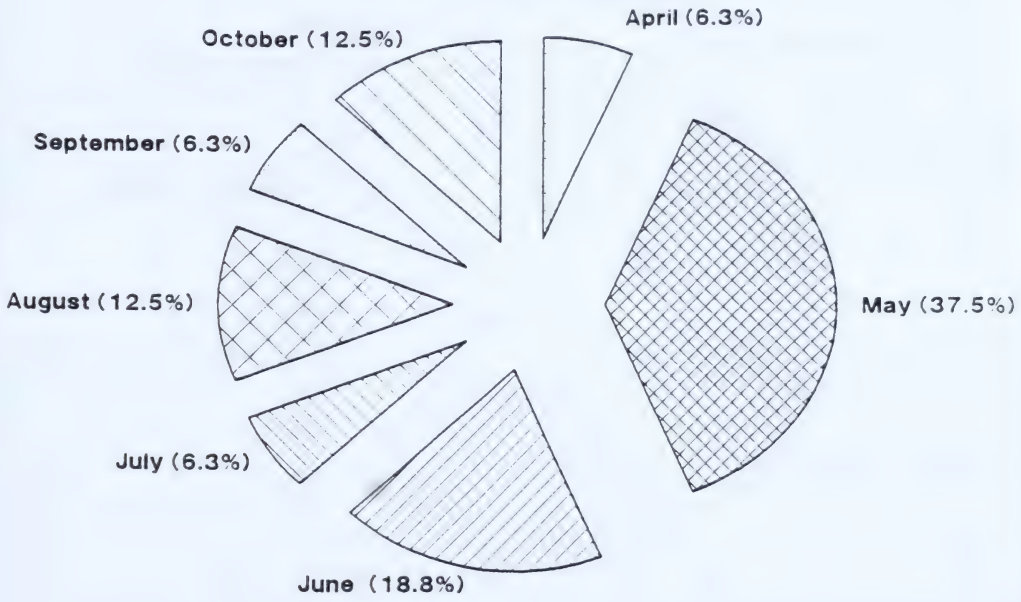
AGE GROUPS OF VICTIMS

1990 FARM FATALITIES



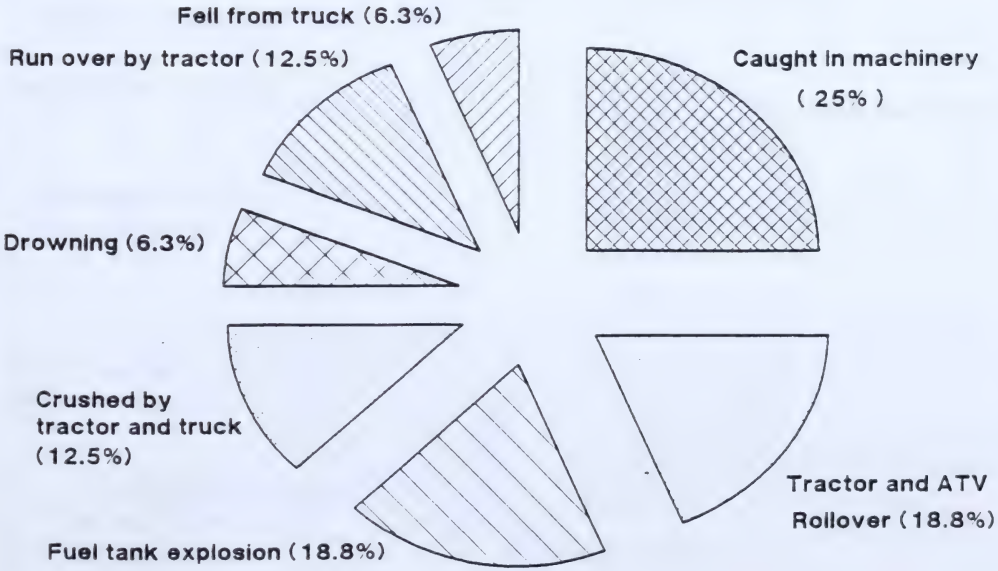
MONTH ACCIDENTS OCCURRED

1990 FARM FATALITIES



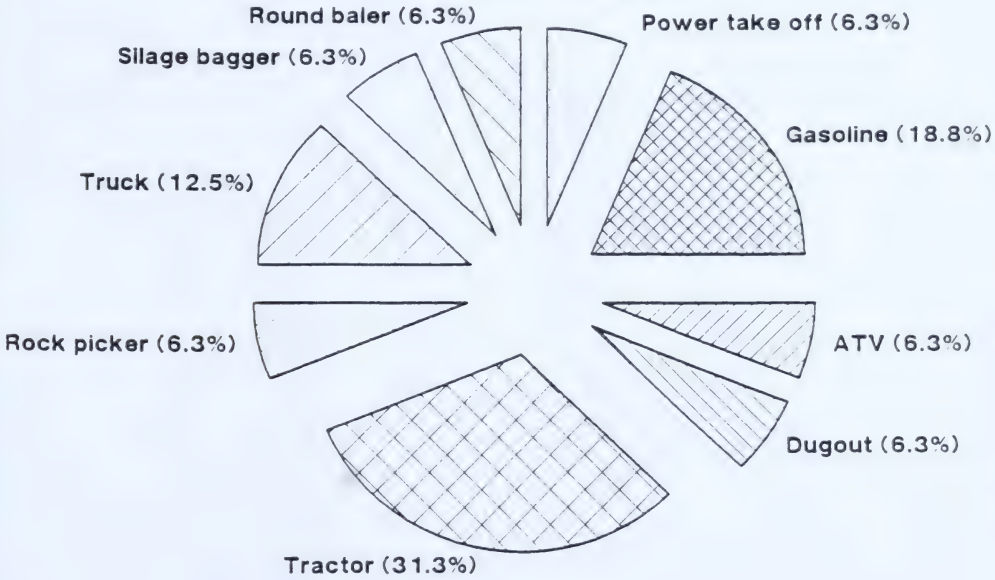
HOW ACCIDENTS OCCURRED

1990 FARM FATALITIES



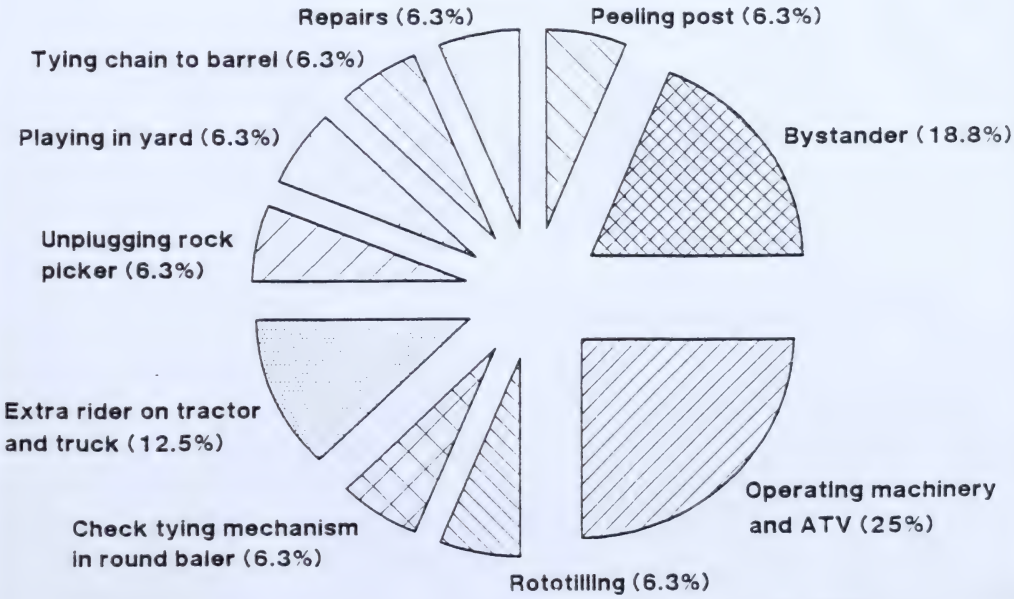
AGENTS INOLVED

1990 FARM FATALITIES



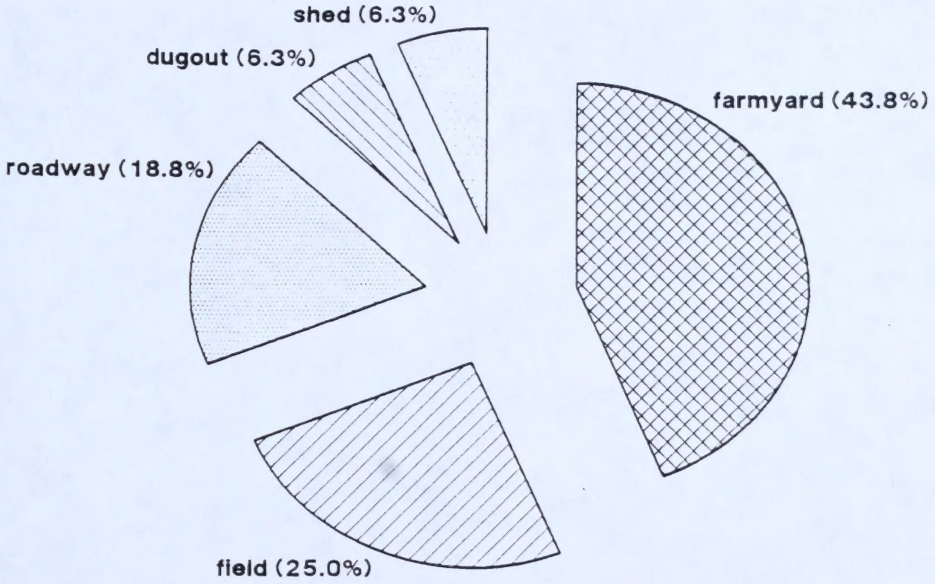
ACTIVITIES OF VICTIMS

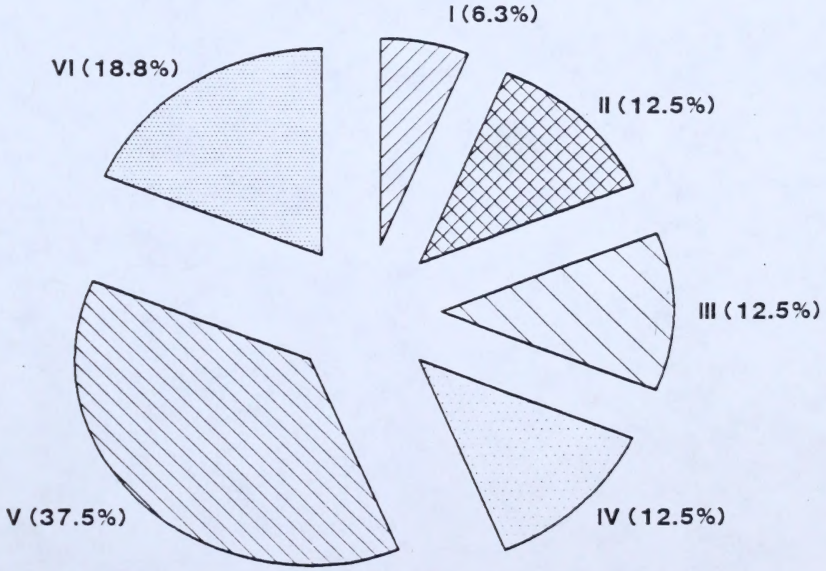
1990 FARM FATALITIES



WHERE ACCIDENTS OCCURRED

1990 FARM FATALITIES



AGRICULTURAL REGION

1990 FARM FATALITIES